

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

According to the present invention there is provided a body at least partially coated with one or more refractory layers of which at least one layer essentially consist of α -Al₂O₃. Said α -Al₂O₃ layer consists of essentially equiaxed grains with an average grain size of $< 1 \mu\text{m}$ and with a bimodal grain size distribution with coarser grains with an average grainsize in the interval $0.5 - 1 \mu\text{m}$ and finer grains with an average grainsize of $< 0.5 \mu\text{m}$. The Al₂O₃ layer further contains striated zones containing titanium ($> 5 \text{ at } \%$) but no nitrogen or carbon. This particular microstructure is obtained by temporarily stopping the gases needed for the growth of the Al₂O₃ layer and introducing TiCl₄.